

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Steven Laut, reg. no. 47,736 on July 22, 2009.

3. The application has been amended as follows:

a. Replace claim 9 to read as of the following,

In Claim 9,

Claim 9 (currently amended): A method for a server device to communicate with a client device in a home network, comprising:

sending server device characteristic data that identify the server device from the server device to the client device in response to the client device transmitting a first request signal generated by said client device and sent to the server device;

receiving a second request signal requesting a web page contained within said server device and associated with a server device control that distinguishes the server device from other server devices, wherein said second request signal is generated in response to said server device characteristic data;

sending said web page in response to said second request signal;

generating a device link file, wherein the device link file identifies ~~[[the]]~~ a plurality of server devices, wherein generating the device link file includes:

associating a logical device name with each of the plurality of server devices; and

storing the plurality of logical device names in the device link file; ~~[[and]]~~

creating a device link page including device controls associated with the plurality of server devices identified in the device link file, wherein the device link page includes at least one device control for each of the plurality of server devices, wherein creating the device link page further includes:

retrieving the plurality of logical device names from the device link file;

storing the plurality of logical device names in the device link page; and

converting the plurality of logical device names to the device controls ~~[[.]]~~;

selecting the at least one device control for one of the plurality of server devices; and

deactivating, on the device link page, the at least one device control for the plurality of server devices that have no matching capabilities to the one of the plurality of server devices selected.

b. Replace claim 10 to read as of the following,

In Claim 10,

Claim 10 (currently amended): The method of claim 9, wherein:

sending the server device characteristic data further includes sending said server device characteristic data to the client device;

receiving the second request signal further includes the client device receiving said server device characteristic data and generating said second request signal in response to said server device characteristic data; and

sending said web page further includes sending the web page to the client device in response to said second request signal.

c. Replace claim 12 to read as of the following,

In Claim 12,

Claim 12 (currently amended): The method of claim 11, further comprising:

creating a menu for selecting said server device among ~~[[a]]~~ the plurality of server devices to activate said controllable function; and

displaying said menu on a browser based device.

d. Replace claim 13 to read as of the following,

In Claim 13,

Claim 13 (currently amended): The method of claim 12, wherein said menu comprises [[a]] the web page including at least one hypertext link to the web page contained within said server device.

e. Replace claim 14 to read as of the following,

In Claim 14,

Claim 14 (currently amended): The method of claim 13, wherein:
creating the menu further includes creating the device link page from the home network, and associating [[a]] the hypertext link with each of the device controls, wherein the hypertext link provides a link to at least one type of graphical and textual information contained in the server device and associated with the device control; and displaying said menu includes displaying said device link page.

f. Replace claim 22 to read as of the following,

In Claim 22,

Claim 22 (currently amended): A home network system comprising:

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a server device including a processor coupled to a memory device for storing web page files;

a client device connected to the server device via a home network;

a detector for detecting an active status of devices currently connected to the home network; and

a control protocol for the server device to communicate with the client device by:

sending server device characteristic data that identify the server device from the server device to the client device in response to a first request signal generated by said client device and sent to the server device;

receiving a second request signal requesting a web page contained within said server device and associated with a server device control that distinguishes the server device from other server devices, wherein said second request signal is generated in response to said server device characteristic data; [[and]]

sending said web page in response to said second request signal[[.]] ;

generating a device link file, wherein the device link file identifies a plurality of server devices, wherein generating the device link file includes:

associating a logical device name with each of the plurality of server devices; and

storing the plurality of logical device names in the device link file;

creating a device link page including device controls associated with the plurality of server devices identified in the device link file, wherein the device link page includes at least one device control for each of the plurality of server devices, wherein creating the device link page further includes:

retrieving the plurality of logical device names from the device link file;

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storing the plurality of logical device names in the device link page; and
converting the plurality of logical device names to the device controls;
selecting the at least one device control for one of the plurality of server
devices; and
deactivating, on the device link page, the at least one device control for the plurality of
server devices that have no matching capabilities to the one of the plurality of server devices
selected.

g. Replace claim 25 to read as of the following,

In Claim 25,

Claim 25 (currently amended): The system of claim 24, further comprising:

a menu generator for creating a menu for selecting said server device among ~~[[a]]~~ the
plurality of server devices to activate said controllable function; and
a browser displaying said menu on a browser based device.

h. Replace claim 27 to read as of the following,

In Claim 27,

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Claim 27 (currently amended): The system of claim 25, wherein:

the menu comprises ~~[[a]]~~ the device link page such that the menu generator creates the device link page from the home network, the device link page including the at least one device control for each of the plurality of server devices, and the menu generator associates ~~[[a]]~~ the hypertext link with each of the device controls, wherein the hypertext link provides a link to at least one of graphical and textual information contained in the server device and associated with the device controls; and the browser displays said device link page on ~~[[a]]~~ the browser based device.

- i. Cancel claims 29-32 to read as of the following,

Claims 29-32 (canceled).

Reason for Allowance

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: None of the prior art of records teach or suggest in combination a method for a server device to communicate with a client device in a home network, comprising: generating a device link file, wherein the device link file identifies a plurality of server devices, wherein generating the device link file includes: associating a logical device name with each of the plurality of server devices; and storing the plurality of logical device names in the device link file; creating a device link page including device controls associated with the plurality of server devices identified in the device link file, wherein the device link page includes at least one device control for each of the plurality of server devices, wherein creating the

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device link page further includes: retrieving the plurality of logical device names from the device link file; storing the plurality of logical device names in the device link page; and converting the plurality of logical device names to the device controls; selecting the at least one device control for one of the plurality of server devices; and deactivating, on the device link page, the at least one device control for the plurality of server devices that have no matching capabilities to the one of the plurality of server devices selected.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Philip C Lee whose telephone number is (571)272-3967. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 AM TO 5:30 PM Monday to Thursday and every other Friday. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Firmin Backer can be reached on (571) 272-6703. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Philip C Lee/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2448

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